



S/N 10/043,827

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: SWART ET AL. Examiner: D. BECKER
Serial No.: 10/043,827 Group Art Unit: 1761
Filed: JANUARY 11, 2002 Docket No.: 163.1386USU1
Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR REDUCING MICROBIAL BURDEN ON
A FOOD PRODUCT

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 16, 2004.

By: Debra A. Bailey
Name: Debra A. Bailey

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), it is respectfully requested that a one-month extension of time be granted in which to respond to the outstanding Office Action mailed October 15, 2003, said period of response being extended from January 15, 2004 to February 15, 2004, which falls on a Sunday, further extending the date for response to Monday, February 16, 2004, which falls on a federal holiday, further extending the date for response to Tuesday, February 17, 2004.

Our check in the amount of \$110.00 is enclosed to cover the required extension fee for a large entity.

02/24/2004 MAHMEED 00000042 10043827

01 FC:1251

110.00 OP

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
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Date: FEBRUARY 16, 2004

Charles A. Jacobson
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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE